



## **First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – January 11, 2016**

### **FirstNet News**

- **Please save the date for the Spring 2016 SPOC Meeting, planned for April 12-13 or April 13-14.** The meeting will likely be held in Reston, Virginia. Logistical information and a draft agenda will be provided in the coming weeks. Please direct any questions to [Amanda.Hilliard@firstnet.gov](mailto:Amanda.Hilliard@firstnet.gov).
- Last week, FirstNet launched an updated [FirstNet.gov website](http://FirstNet.gov). Among the new features, the site now includes an interactive state and territory map on the home page that provides more information on consultation progress in the states and territories. Further, if you click on a state or territory, the map will lead you to an individual state/territory page, which includes contact information for the state, as well as each state's website that is dedicated to FirstNet.
- FirstNet released a new video – part one of a two part series – highlighting our 2016 consultation plans in the states and territories. Please feel free to share this video with public safety stakeholders in your state or territory. The video is available on the [FirstNet website](http://FirstNet.gov) and on our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOYQXhixQIQ>
- We hope you will find these new features – the website map, the individual state pages, and the consultation video - to be useful tools to assist with outreach in your state or territory.
- The FirstNet team continues to prepare the Request for Proposals (RFP) for release this month.

### **News from the PSAC, States and Territories**

- This week, members of the FirstNet User Advocacy, Technology and Legal teams and Board member Kevin McGinnis will be in Alabama for the Southeast Public Safety Broadband Summit. The Alabama SPOC's team is coordinating the event, which is expected to include nearly 200 representatives from 12 states in the region. The summit will be a key opportunity to address key priorities for FirstNet in 2016, including the RFP.
- The Early Builders Working Group (EBWG) will be holding its monthly call this week on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Media Watch**

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### **Investor's Business Daily: AT&T Eyes FirstNet Amid Views Verizon Is Front-Runner**

<http://news.investors.com/technology/010616-788364-atandt-verizon-and-others-want-new-government-contract.htm>

Some analysts view Verizon Communications (NYSE:VZ) as the front-runner for the FirstNet build-out. A request for proposals (RFP) could be released as soon as this month, with a FirstNet build-out starting in 2017.

### **Fierce Government IT: FirstNet Reviews 2015 Progress**

<http://www.fiercегovernmentit.com/story/firstnet-reviews-2015-progress/2016-01-06>

The First Responder Network Authority, or FirstNet, said 2015 was a year of significant progress in its effort to build out a nationwide public safety broadband network. In a blog post published late last month, FirstNet Board Vice Chair Jeff Johnson said the group has now completed initial consultations with first responders and other stakeholders in 55 states and territories.

### **Seeking Alpha: AT&T To Push Verizon for FirstNet Public-Safety Contract**

<http://seekingalpha.com/news/3016646-at-and-t-to-push-verizon-for-firstnet-public-safety-contract>

At Citi's investor conference, AT&T's John Donovan says the FirstNet contract is a "rare event" and a "good opportunity for us."

Related Article: <http://wirelessestimatоr.com/articles/2016/att-will-be-throwing-its-hat-in-the-ring-for-a-firstnet-build-out/>

### **Emergency Management: 2016 Predictions for Emergency Management**

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/emergency-blogs/disaster-zone/2016-predictions-for-emergency-management.html>

It's risky to make predictions, but here are mine for 2016...

Technology -- The onward march and pace of technology will pick up even more. More systems will be fielded and they will require connectivity. We are a year away from FirstNet having identified a contractor(s) to build out the dedicated digital wireless first responder network, but it can't come too soon. Bandwidth for all the new tools is desperately needed and will only become more accentuated as more technology is piled on people and vehicles.

### **State Scoop: State Governors Association Chief Lays Out 2016 Agenda**

<http://statescoop.com/inside-new-national-governors-association-heads-2016-agenda/>

Looking ahead this year and beyond, Pattison said the NGA will be "integral" in the rollout of the congressionally mandated First Responder Network Authority, commonly known as

FirstNet, acting as a liaison between the federal government and the states. The organization will also be involved in issues surrounding drones and license plate readers.

#### *Web and Social Media*

FirstNet social media accounts were also active last week. Twitter now has 3,026 followers; LinkedIn has 1,219 followers; YouTube has 188 subscribers; and Google+ has 61 users.

Several new entries were posted to the FirstNet blog: [CTO Blog: Colorado Parks and Wildlife LTE Band 14 Demonstration Network](#) and [Reviewing 2015 Progress and 2016 Priorities](#) which was reposted from the [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#) website and a recap of the [Hawaii initial state consultation](#). All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at: <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>.